

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

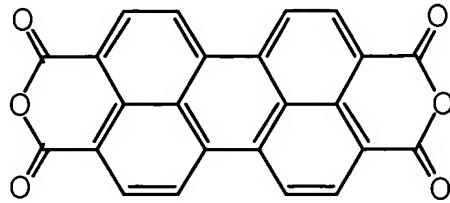
Reconsideration of this application is requested. Claims 1-4 are pending in the application subsequent to entry of this Amendment.

Responding to the issues raised in the outstanding Official Action in the order presented, with regard to item 1 attention is directed to the filing of a certified copy of the priority document submitted on January 6, 2005 thus completing applicants' claim for benefit of priority. In due course acknowledgement of receipt of this document is requested.

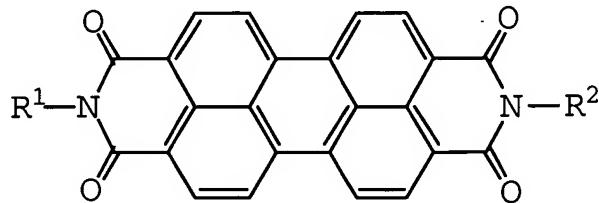
The claims have been amended in order to more particularly point out and distinctly claim that which applicants regard as their invention and to address items 3 and 4 of the Official Action. More specifically, with regard to item 4, claim 1 has been amended to further clarify the point of attachment of the R³ and R⁴ substituents in formulae (III) and (IV); *see* the following discussion.

Claim 3 is amended to change "the content" to read --the amount-- and claim 4 has been amended to define the black perylene-based pigment as that defined in claim 1. Accordingly, it is believed that the objections raised to claims 1-4 under the second paragraph of §112 have been resolved.

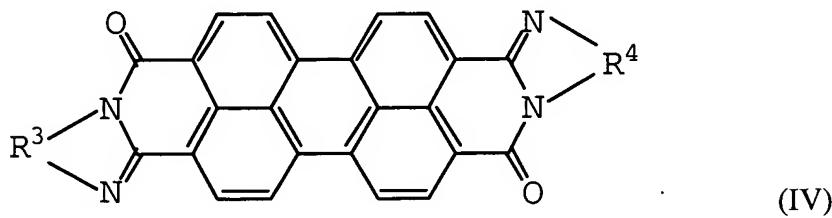
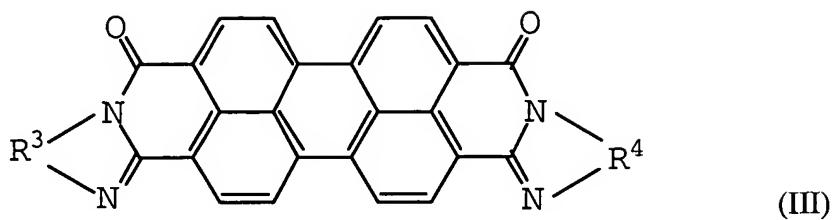
Turning next to the rejections stated in item 3 of the Official Action, applicants' claims are directed to a black perylene-based pigment which is a solid solution composed of at least two compounds selected from the compounds represented by the following formulae (I) to (IV):



(I)



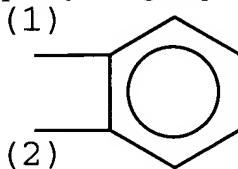
(II)



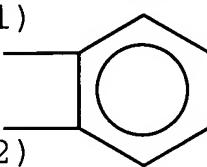
wherein R¹ and R² may be same or different and are independently -(CH₂)_n-X, and X is as defined in claim 1. As for formulae (III) and (IV) R³ and R⁴ may be same or different and are independently one of the groups specified in claim 1. R³ and R⁴ are respectively bonded to adjacent positions of the aromatic ring to which they are attached via the respective nitrogen atoms.

As seen from the above, in the adjacent positions of a nitrogen-containing aromatic ring in the formulae (III) and (IV) the R³s are bonded to each of the nitrogen atoms of the perylene-based skeleton and the adjacent positions of the aromatic ring of the substituents; and the R⁴s are bonded to each of the nitrogen atoms of the perylene-based skeleton.

To illustrate, in the case of using a phenylene group as the substituents: R³ and R⁴, the (1)



(2)



and (2) positions of the phenylene group: (1) and (2) are bonded to the each of the nitrogen atoms of the perylene-based skeleton in the formulae (III) and (IV), respectively.

Also, as seen from the examples, compounds having phenylene groups or pyridinediyl groups as one of the R³ and R⁴ substituents are used.

Counsel submits that the amendments made to claim 1 clarify this point and respond to the examiner's comments and concerns expressed in item 3 of the Official Action. If however the examiner prefers to express this relationship in a different manner, then please contact the undersigned in order to discuss and resolve any possible remaining issues.

MIZUGUCHI, J. et al.
Appl. No. 10/762,579
June 7, 2005

Responsive to item 6, submitted herewith is an Information Disclosure Statement listing the documents identified and discussed on pages 2 and 3 of the specification. An English abstract of JP 57-139144 is not available. Attached is a copy of search indicating a corresponding patent document is U.S. 4,450,273 and this is listed on the PTO-1449. With respect to Japanese 52-103450, as indicated in the attached search no English language abstract is available. As shown in the attached search result, no English language abstract is available for Japanese 45-33552.

Reconsideration and favorable action are solicited. If the examiner requires further information please contact the undersigned by telephone.

Respectfully submitted,

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